

FIGHT ON HOWELL FIRST REAL TEST

Roosevelt Will Attempt to Seat Him on Committee

TAFT FOLLOWERS
WILL OPPOSE HIM

If Nebraska Man Wins, Then
Similar Contests Will Be Push-
ed, With Result That Ex-
President May Secure
Control of National
Committee

Chicago, June 2.—Friends of Colonel Roosevelt said today that the first real test of strength between their candidate and President Taft would come next Thursday, when R. B. Howell, of Omaha, national Republican committeeman-elect, from the sixth district, will demand to be seated as the successor of Victor Roosevelt, acting chairman of the national Republican committee, at the hearing of contests by that body.

The Roosevelt managers are prepared to make a determined fight to have Mr. Howell seated, and if they succeed they will demand that E. B. D. White, of New Jersey; Thomas C. Ringhaus, of Missouri, and other national committeemen-elect, chosen either by primary or State conventions, be seated. But this means they may succeed in controlling the national committee and deciding whether Senator Elihu Root, of New York shall be seated.

of the convention. Mr. S. New, chairman of the subcommittee on arrangements for the convention, declined to accept the plans of the Roosevelt leaders, but intimated that he believed the national committee would not seat Mr. Howell or any other committeeman-elect until after the adjournment of the convention. He also expressed the opinion that the national committee would approve of the selection of Senator Root as temporary chairman and Indorse the plan for the distribution of the convention tickets.

Howell Wants His Seat.

Mr. Howell, national committeeman-elect from Nebraska, arrived here to-day armed with a certificate signed by Governor Davenport, of Nebraska, and the Governor of State of Nebraska, Treasurer and Attorney-General of that State, setting forth that he was regularly elected to the office April 19, 1912.

Mr. Howell, after conferring with Secretary of the national Roosevelt committee, issued a statement in part as follows:

"There is no doubt that I am under the laws of my State the only person who can act as national committeeman. I have been elected to that office by Nebraska's secret ballot system and I have qualified to assume the

"As to whether I will be attorney

perform the functions of the office will depend solely upon whether the national committee, when I present my credentials, will recognize the primacy of the State of Nebraska.

I understand it, the national committee has today adopted a rule recognizing such laws of the States; hence, it would appear that the committee must grant me my seat or else it will make an exception in the application of its rule in the favor of its acting chairman.

Chicago Scene of Fight.

Beginning to-morrow, Chicago will be the centre of the fight for the nomination for President, as the headquarters of Taft, Roosevelt, La Follette and Cummins will be opened here.

James M. Dixon, campaign manager of Republican Roosevelt,

man W. B. McKinley, in charge of President Taft's campaign, are expected from Washington to-morrow, Tuesday or Wednesday Charles D. Hilles, secretary of President Taft, will arrive to remain until after the convention. Members of the national committee are gathering to attend the meeting of that body next Thursday and it is expected that by Wednesday

Former Senator Charles Dick, of Ohio, who is to handle the contests for President Taft before the national committee, will be here to-morrow morning, and Ormsby McHarg, who is to represent Colonel Roosevelt in the matter of contests, is expected to arrive to-morrow evening.

Secretary William Hayward, of the national committee, received one new contest to-day. It was another list of delegates-at-large from Florida, which makes three sets chosen at large from that State—two Taft delegations and one Roosevelt.

Alabama, six at large and First, Second, Fifth, Sixth and Ninth Districts, 16; Arkansas, four at large and First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Districts, 20.

enth Districts, 16; California, Fourth District, 2; District of Columbia, two at large, 2; Florida, six at large and First, Second and Third Districts, 12; Georgia, four at large and First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth Districts, 18; Indiana, four

at large and First, Third and Thirteenth Districts, 10; Kentucky, Fifth and Eleventh Districts, 4; Louisiana, six at large and First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Districts, 20; Michigan, six at large, 8; Minnesota, Fourth District, 2; Mississippi, four at large and First, Second,